

Chairman Marvin Abney
House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02908

CC: Members of the House Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House, Room 35
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02908

Gerard Caro
2 Abby Road
Barrington, RI 02806

March 5, 2021

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee:

I am a constituent of Representative **Jason Knight** and Senator **Cynthia Coyne** and writing you in support of Speaker Shekarchi's Bill, H5223, which would allow the State of RI to enter into a long-term economic development agreement with IGT and Twin River.

In June 2020 I celebrated my 25th anniversary as an IGT employee. Keeping organizations that contribute high income jobs and their associated taxes to RI, and contributions to local good causes is exactly the future economic development that Rhode Island and its residents need.

I am a transplant to Rhode Island, and truthfully, I would have never considered moving here if not for the job offer from IGT. I also would likely not have stayed in RI were it not my position at IGT; that's because there are few jobs here with the international scope in the gaming industry. While in Rhode Island I've lived in East Greenwich for 7 years and Barrington for 13 years; that move was prompted by IGT's investment in downtown Providence.

My spouse, Cheryl A. Caro, is a Registered Dietitian and graduate of Johnson & Wales. She works in the Rhode Island public school food programs providing nutritional education to preparers, school officials, parents and of course the students. She agrees with the benefits of keeping IGT in Rhode Island.

Our three children went through the public school system in East Greenwich and Barrington. Our son Max attended four years at URI and graduated as a Mechanical Engineer, and now works in Clinton, CT. Our daughters Kayla and Alyson, both college graduates (MS and BS) live and work in Massachusetts and Colorado. Cheryl and I wish they had remained closer, in RI. This is another reason for how Rhode Island economic development policy needs to keep organizations like IGT in the state; that is, to offer high quality jobs to our college graduate demographic.

Respectfully,

Gerard Caro
Sr. Director Global Lottery Marketing Insights